



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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From: Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
To: Distribution

Subj: ADOPTING THE U. S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL'S (USGBC) LEADERSHIP
IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (LEED™) RATING SYSTEM

1. Naval Facilities Engineering Command has adopted the U. S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) Rating System as a tool to apply sustainable principles and as a metric to measure the sustainability achieved through the planning, design and construction process. As a planning and design tool, the LEED™ Rating System offers design strategies and technologies, potential design synergies and trade-offs, and cost impacts. As a metric, the LEED™ Rating System measures the project sustainability achieved in design and construction. The adoption and use of LEED™ supports the requirements of Executive Order 13123 such as reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, greater energy efficiency, water conservation and the use of renewable energy products.

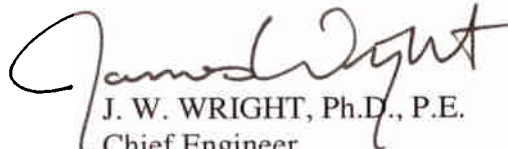
2. LEED™ (<http://www.leedbuilding.org>) is a rating system to be used as a self-assessment tool for all projects. The system awards points based on the number of LEED™ credits earned. These credits are earned by using products, systems, strategies or technologies described in LEED™. Version 2.0 of the rating system has four levels: Certified (26-32 points), Silver (33-38 points), Gold (39-51 points) and Platinum (52-69 points). At a minimum, all new and major renovation projects shall strive to meet the Certified level, unless not applicable. Efforts to reach higher levels are encouraged to incorporate sustainability to the fullest extent possible consistent with customer, mission and budget requirements. Submission to the USGBC for LEED™ certification is not a requirement, but may be justified when appropriate for project visibility, such as showcase projects. If submitted, project funds must be used. Version 2.0 was developed for commercial, institutional and high-rise residential buildings. Projects that are not new, major renovation projects, and facility types and infrastructure projects not covered by Version 2.0 should still use and interpret LEED™ to the fullest extent possible where it can be applied.

3. As the USGBC develops new ratings systems (e.g., Existing Buildings, Multiple Buildings, Commercial Interiors, Residential Buildings, Campus Facilities) and updates existing versions, we will evaluate them for adoption.

4. A task group of architects and engineers from Headquarters and the Engineering Innovation and Criteria Office is developing a NAVFAC Instruction on Sustainable Development Policy. This Instruction will capture and update the relevant information

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from our existing policy statements on sustainable development and include new content to provide a single holistic yet concise overarching document. This Instruction will be coordinated within NAVFAC prior to the planned completion date of December 2002.



J. W. WRIGHT, Ph.D., P.E.
Chief Engineer

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